

## INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

## Kuwait: Fourth report of the peaceful gathering at the Al-Irada Square on July 3, 2021

As usual, the International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, which follows the events on the Kuwaiti human rights scene, in particular, in the last four weeks, in which youth groups have been active in calling for freedom and democracy, the abolition of laws restricting freedoms, the return of refugees, and the release of prisoners of conscience for the fourth week in a row. Although the first three weeks were characterized by adherence to the rules regulating such events, we have monitored in our previous reports some observations that we saw as formal and made recommendations. However, on the evening of July 3, we observed the use of violence and force sometimes, and the government should not have resorted to such measures, which were as follows:

First: - As usual, the car parks near Al-Irada Square have been closed

**Second**: - Access to non-Kuwaiti journalists was prevented.

**Third**: - The Human rights advisor and representative of the ICSFT, Mr. Anwar Al-Rasheed, was prevented from accessing Al-Irada Square under the pretext of wearing a vest that written on the back "Human Rights Monitor - Monitoring and Documentation", which forced him to take it off and continue with the tasks assigned to him.

**Fourth**: All banners expressing the opinion of the participants in the peaceful assembly were confiscated.

**Fifth**: - One of the women activists was dealt with some violence by the women's police in an attempt to snatch the banner she was carrying.

**Sixth**: - Activist Khalifa Al-Hashash was arrested and transferred to Al-Salhiya police station, and then released.

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Therefore, our recommendations to the Kuwaiti government:

**First**: The right of peaceful assembly is guaranteed under Article 44 of the Constitution.

**Second**: Allowing the Kuwaiti people of different orientations and visions to express their opinion peacefully and unconditionally as a constitutionally guaranteed right by Article 36 of the Constitution, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights signed and ratified by the government of the State of Kuwait. Otherwise, this is contrary to what the state has ratified.

Head of the Monitoring and Documentation Team at the ICSFT Human rights advisor Anwar Al-Rasheed Kuwait, July 4, 2021

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